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The old-time policies of Chinese reclusion and foreign aggression and special privilege have been reversed and limited, to the advantage alike of China and the world.

THE NORTHEASTERN FISHERIES QUESTION.

The proposed submission to arbitration of the questions in dispute under the fishery provisions of the Treaty of 1818 marks an important and hopeful development in the northeastern fisheries controversy.

From the outset there has been a wide divergence of view between the United States and Great Britain as to the meaning and effect of the fishery provisions of this treaty. Questions have arisen not only as to the extent of the rights and obligations of the American fishermen in the Canadian and Newfoundland waters affected by the treaty, but also as to the extent of the treaty waters themselves. Canada and Newfoundland have invariably so interpreted the treaty as to exclude or render worthless the fishing privileges claimed under it as a matter of right by the United States, and their admitted purpose has been to compel the United States to grant trade concessions as the price of the enjoyment of such privileges. Under the circumstances it can hardly be expected that the United States would grant the trade concessions demanded as the price of better treatment. The reciprocal agreements entered into from time to time for new and more extensive fishery privileges and trade concessions, in which the fishery privileges of this treaty have been merged, have always proved unsatisfactory and short lived. Experience has shown that a permanent settlement of this dispute by such methods is now a practical impossibility. It is evident, therefore, that, in order to arrive at any final adjustment, the rights of the respective parties under this treaty must first be ascertained, and for that purpose resort to arbitration must be had. A just and substantial basis will thus be established for the exchange of such additional privileges as may be desired on such terms as may be mutually agreeable.

The terms of the new *modus vivendi* relating to the fisheries in the treaty waters of Newfoundland, entered into pending the submission of the entire controversy to arbitration, and the diplomatic correspondence on the subject between the British and United States Governments will be found at pages 349 to 377 of the Supplement to this number.

It will be observed that the new *modus vivendi* differs from that of last year in the omission of the provision permitting the use of purse seines by the American fishermen, and the addition of the provisions

for reopening the question in order to consider any changes which may be agreed upon locally between the Newfoundland authorities and the American fishermen, and which are acceptable both to the United States and Great Britain.

SECRETARY ROOT'S VISIT TO MEXICO.

The visit of Secretary Root to Mexico in October was the logical complement of his journey around South America in 1906. He had visited the Republics of Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Peru, aside from making brief stops in Uruguay, Panama, and Colombia. He had been able to view with his own eyes the political, economic, and social conditions of the South American continent, and to mingle with its representative statesmen, but he could hardly have formed a thoroughly comprehensive idea, first hand, of Latin America without seeing Mexico and meeting her leading men. In considering our sister republics we ought not to forget that ten of the twenty are in North America, or closer to it than to South America. Among these ten, Mexico has a population, wealth, and commerce equal to the other nine.

The interest of Mr. Root in Latin America is not a sudden development. Long before he assumed the duties of Secretary of State, and while Secretary of War, he became thoroughly acquainted with the politics and people of Cuba, through practically administering its affairs for three years, visiting the island frequently and finally establishing the Cuban Government. As he was, therefore, familiar with Cuba and could not possibly absent himself from Washington long enough to call upon the other Republics of the Caribbean or upon those of Central America, it was fitting that he should accept the invitation of President Diaz and select Mexico to complete his pan-American journeys. When the Secretary of State returned to Washington he had established an unprecedented record of official traveling in foreign lands for the purpose of better equipping himself as Minister for Foreign Affairs. No other government has such peculiar associations with its neighbors as the United States enjoys with the twenty Latin American republics of the Western Hemisphere. Whether these have confidence in the policies of the United States and work with it or against it for the general good of all depends much upon the personal interest and attitude of the Secretary of State of the United States, and it does not take long for the statesmen, press, and people of our sister nations to find out whether the man himself who directs the foreign policy of the United States is in sympathy with them or not.